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The Ontario Department of Education

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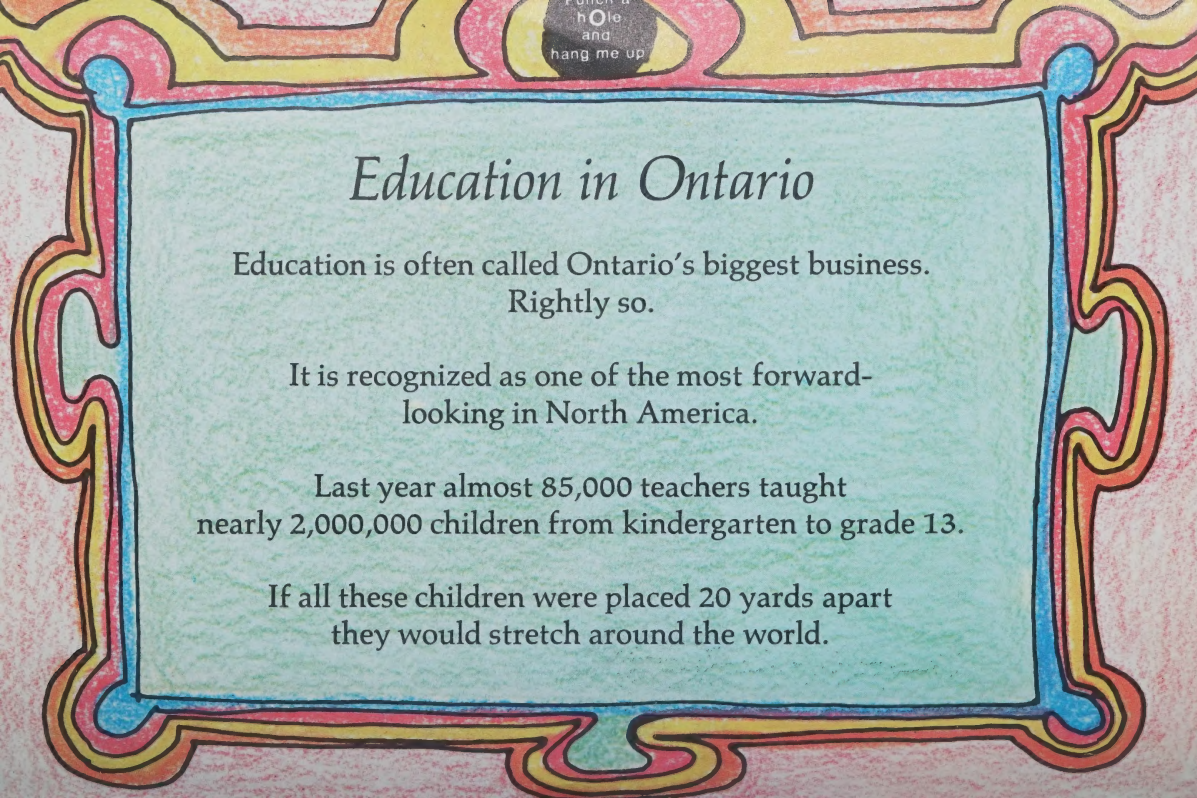

Education in Ontario

Education is often called Ontario's biggest business.
Rightly so.

It is recognized as one of the most forward-
looking in North America.

Last year almost 85,000 teachers taught
nearly 2,000,000 children from kindergarten to grade 13.

If all these children were placed 20 yards apart
they would stretch around the world.

The Legislature agreed to support elementary education in 1816. Education of children was made compulsory in 1871.

Today, all citizens benefit from the educational atmosphere; there are educational programs for everyone.

This year, Ontario's 1,446 school boards were reduced to 235, improving facilities and opportunity for equal education in Ontario.

Formal examinations are not as important as they once were.
The emphasis now is on individual progress.

Remember the words "senior fourth"?
Now it's called grade 8.
One day "grade" may be just as old-fashioned.

The new emphasis is on promotion by subject
rather than grade.
This year about 100 secondary schools will have experimental
non-graded programs.

The new educational philosophy is "continuous progress".
That means that education matches a student's ability to learn
based on his own maturity, needs and interests.

When older skills become outdated by modern technology
adults may train for new jobs
through the Ontario Manpower Retraining Program.

Technical students receive on-the-job training
in business and industry.

Isolated regions secure qualified teachers
through the Department's Northern Corps.

All types of handicapped children have the opportunity
to prepare for productive and happier lives
through Schools for the Blind and the Deaf
and expanding facilities in the field of special education.

The Ontario Department of Education is an employer of more than 3,000 people.

In addition to the administrative offices in Toronto, the Department's work is carried out in 10 regional offices each headed by a regional director of education.

There are some 20 branches and sections, each specializing in service to the Department, to teachers or in a particular field of education.

News and Information Services informs parents, teachers, students and education groups through press, radio and publications.

Last year, Ontario's 13 teachers' colleges
enrolled 9,277 students to train as elementary teachers:
a record number.
And 2,116 trained as secondary school teachers
in three colleges of education.

In Ontario, teachers never really *stop* going to school.
About 17 per cent attended 66 summer courses in 1968,
in 33 Ontario centres.
That's 14,628 teachers
seeking to upgrade qualifications and become specialists.
They were trained by 1,279 instructors and lecturers.

Until recently, most secondary school graduates had to choose between university or going to work.
Now, 20 Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology
— community colleges —
teach everything from agrology to fashions on 50 sites.
In 1968 there were more than 22,000 full-time students and 28,000 part-time.
Four years ago there were none!

Want to trace an ancestor
who taught school in Ontario around 1876?
The Registrar's Section has records dating back that far,
stored on microfilm in a small room.

The section evaluates educational documents
brought by people from overseas and other provinces.
It handles 30,000 requests a year
from the public, schools and business firms.

Moving your family to outer Mongolia or Africa?
Don't worry.
Correspondence Courses go to more than 50 countries
to students 6 to 70 years old.

The one-room school house has nearly disappeared —
replaced by bigger buildings with better teaching tools.
Last year, 102 new schools and 309 additions were built,
making more than one new facility for every day of the year,
making room for 106,199 additional pupils.

School Planning and Building Research plans
for constantly better use of school buildings.

Department specialists provide teachers with course guides.
In addition to English, maths and science,
the Curriculum Section has drawn up outlines
for courses in sex education, family living, even outer space.

Our schools are twinned with those of Caribbean countries.

Special Projects Section coordinates student exchanges and supplies desks and other needed equipment to 17 countries. Last year, Canadian Forces planes carried 300 tons of books and 30,000 pieces of equipment to 1,350 Caribbean schools.

The wider world enters the classroom via Educational Television. More than 500 programs were provided last year by ETVO, most of them made specially for Ontario schools.

Bilingualism has long been a part of our educational system. This year, legislation provides for French secondary schools, and the right of French-speaking parents to elect to have elementary classes in French in mainly English-speaking areas.

Youth is the focal point of education
and the Department is concerned with youth activity.
Advice, guidance and resources are provided
to municipalities, school boards, private agencies
to develop recreation programs for and with young people.

In 1968, the Youth and Recreation Branch inspired
a program for coordination and development of amateur sports.
Students may enrol for professional courses
in recreation leadership.
This year, the branch provided leadership
for organization of an Ontario-wide youth theatre.

Questions? Contact:

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Research: Pamela Mason
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Graphic Design: Leslie Smart & Associates
Artist: Philip Smart
Printer: McLaren, Morris & Todd Limited

Typesetter: Cooper & Beatty Limited
Tri-color separations: Phipps Reproductions Limited
Typeset in 12 on 14 pt Palatino
Printed on 160M Ropaco Offset paper
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September
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October
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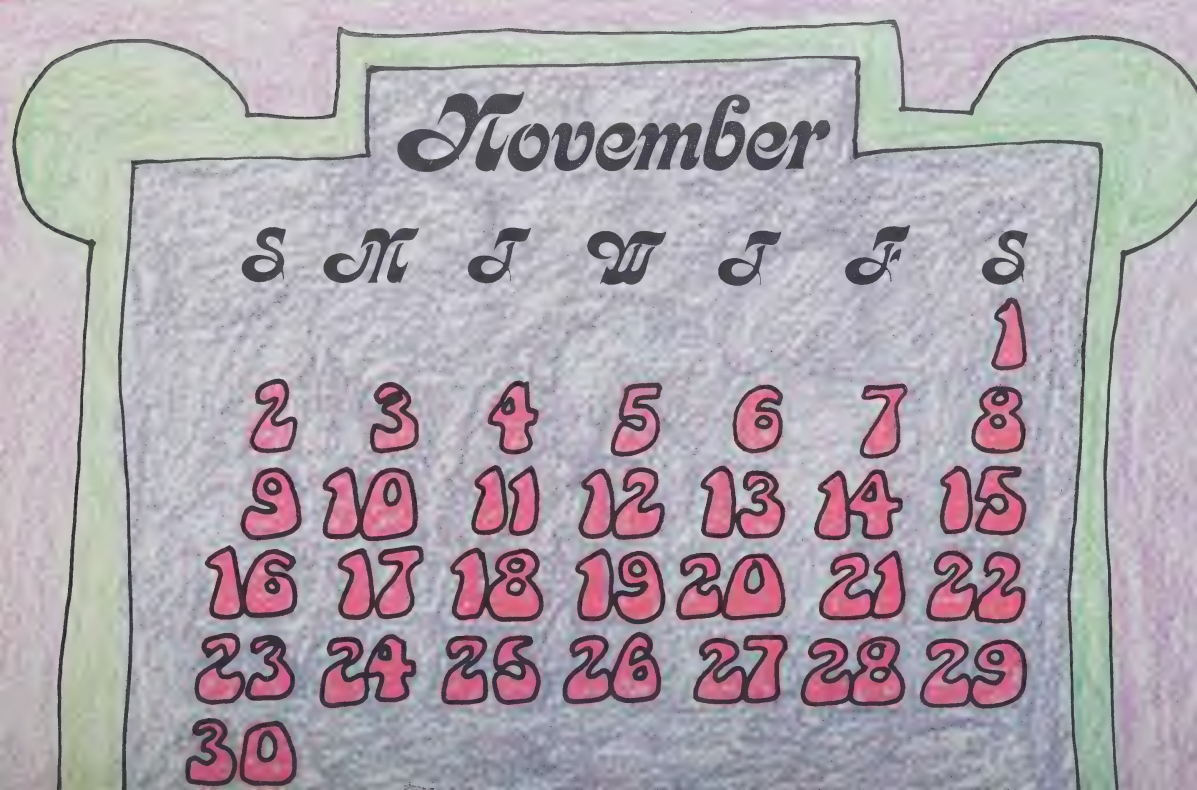
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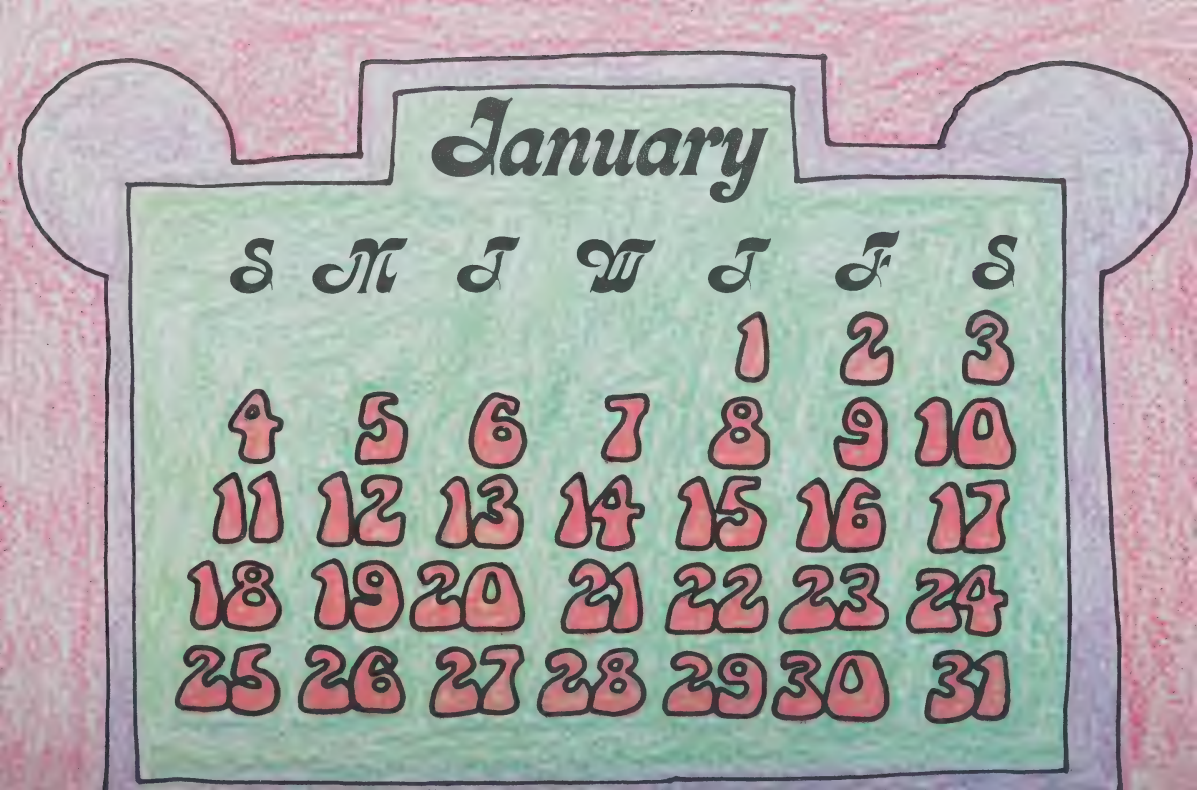
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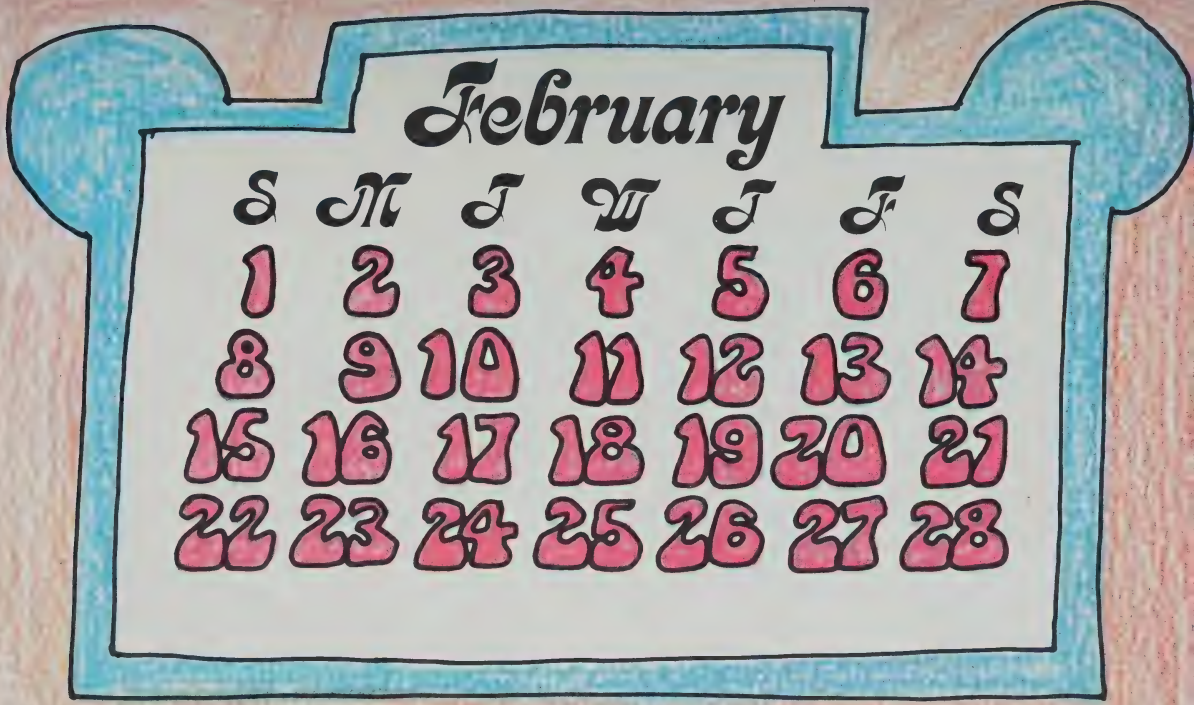
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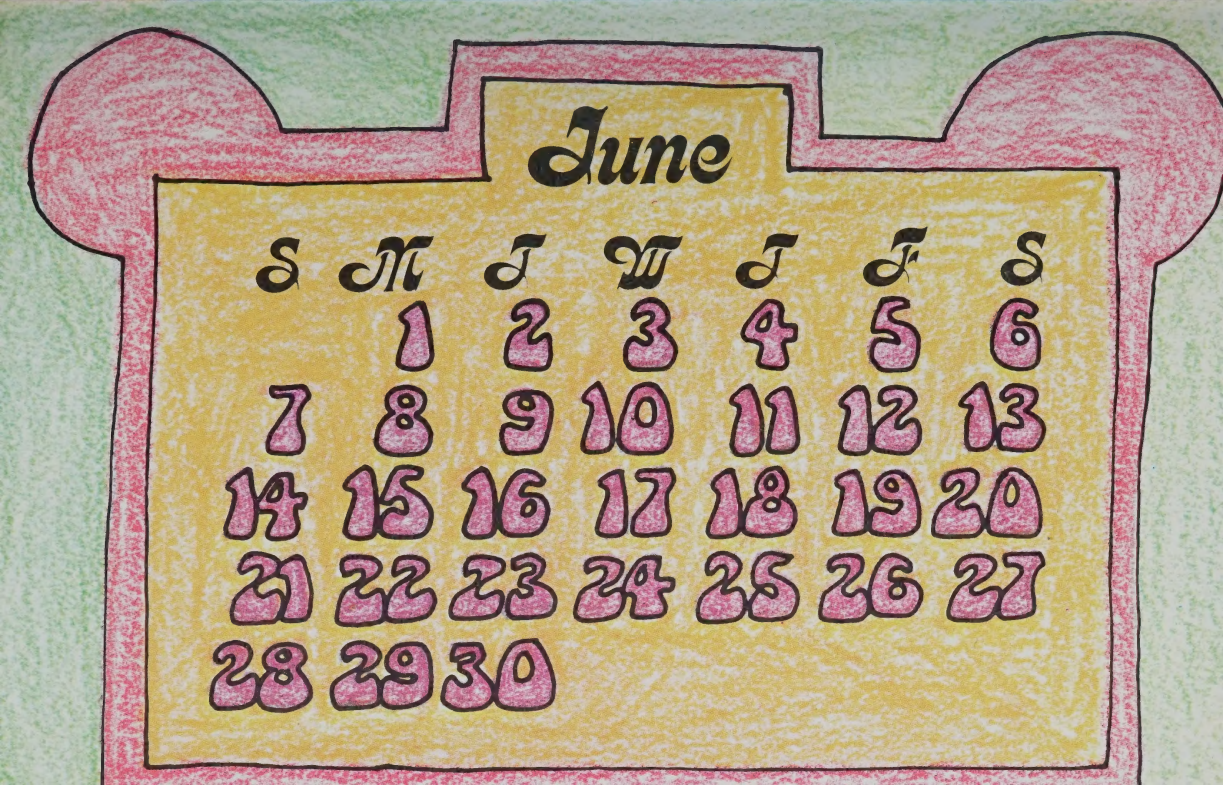
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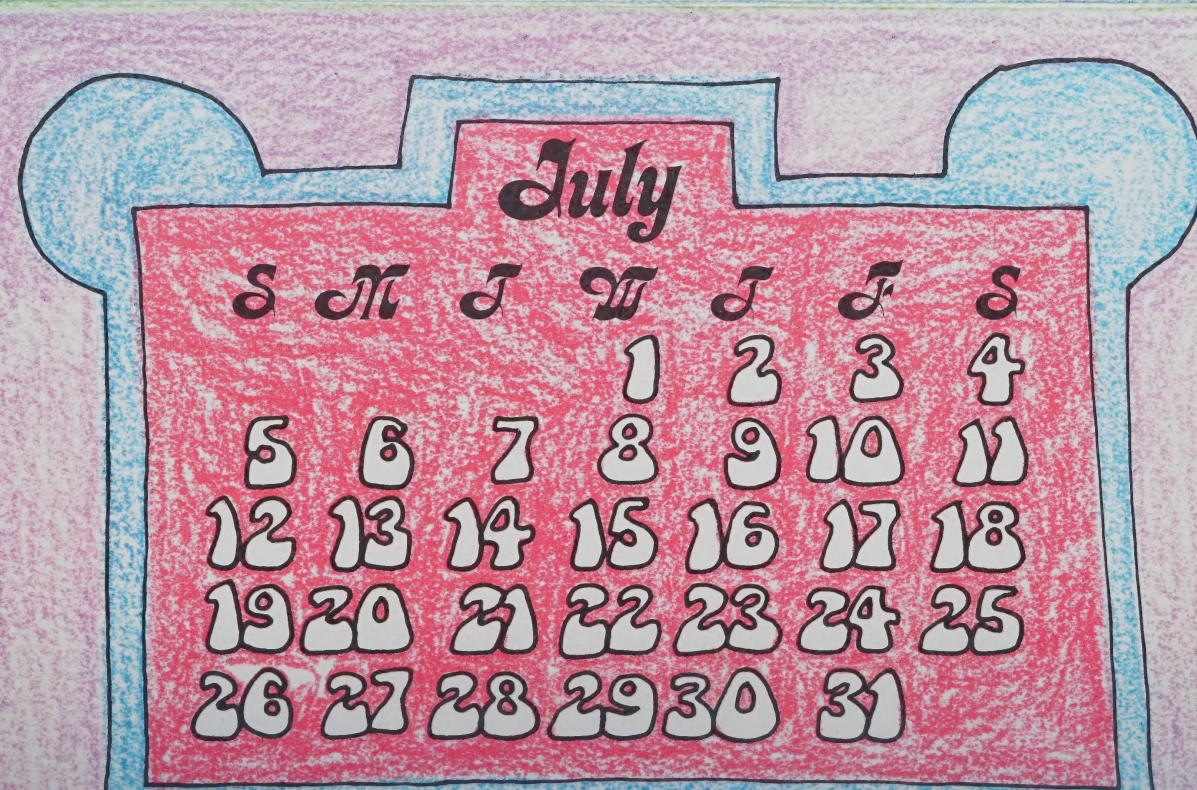
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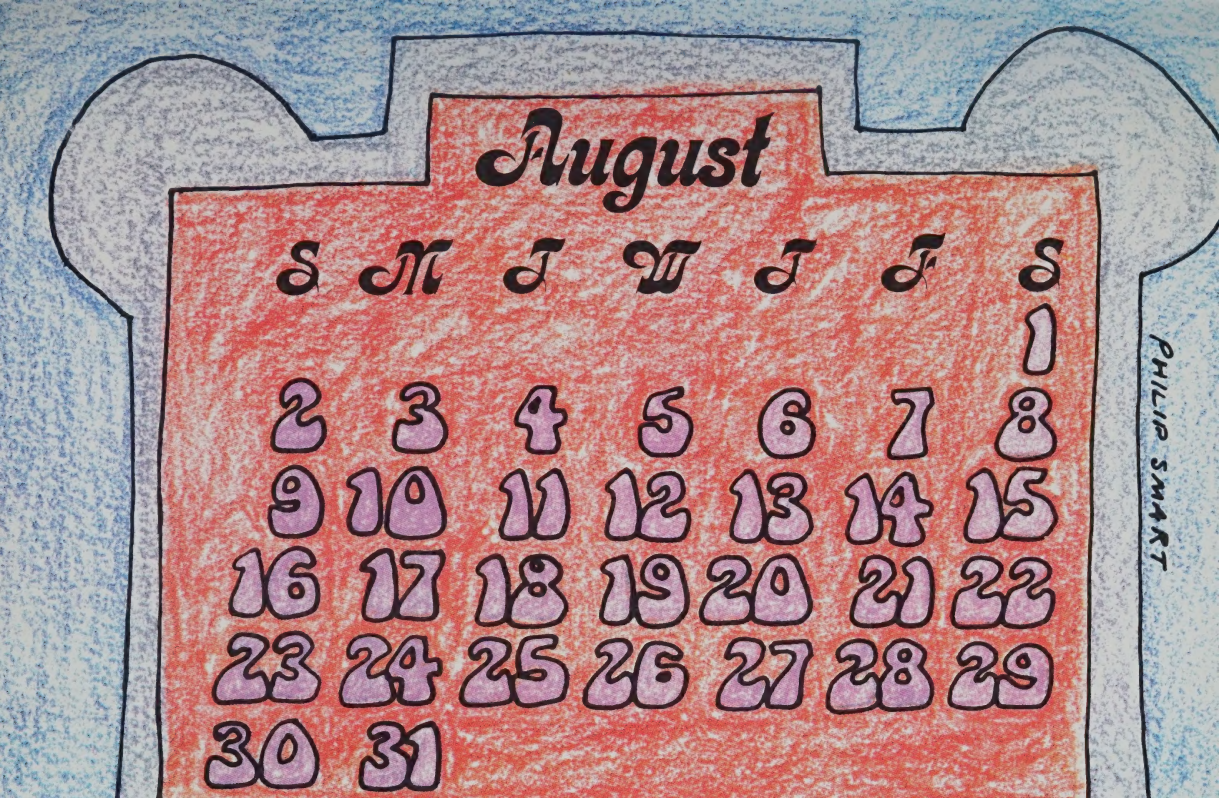
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PHILIP SMART